

**Town of Arlington  
Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Tuesday, June 11, 2002 7:15 PM

Committee members present: Rich Bento, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jack Hurd, Lt. Jim McHugh, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, David Walkinshaw

Only five members were present at any given time. Therefore, the committee did not have a quorum and the meeting became an informal discussion of issues. Below are some notes from that discussion.

**Administrative Items**

Ed Starr announced that he would be away during July, and that Scott Smith would act as chair in his absence. Depending on the issues raised during late June and early July, it may not be necessary to have a meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>. However, we will reserve the date, and will decide on the necessity of a meeting by July 11<sup>th</sup>.

**News**

Rich Bento spoke with Jim Gallagher of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council about the Massachusetts Avenue Corridor proposal. It was helpful that we had some designs in mind already, and had started the public process. Next steps are to continue the public process and obtain political support from our state representatives and the Selectmen. Jim McHugh received a call from Steve Makowka about follow-up items for the Russell Street area.

At this point, Rich Bento departed.

**Jason Street**

We discussed the traffic counts in the area. There was some brief discussion of the Jason/ Spring /Hillsdale intersection (now a free for all; stop signs and a crosswalk might help near the school bus top). There was also discussion of changing the geometry of the Hillsdale/Jason intersection to improve sightlines to the crosswalk at Brantwood.

At this point, Jack Hurd departed, and Elisabeth Carr-Jones arrived.

**Warrant Article 66**

It is likely that this will go before Town Meeting the week of 6/17.

**Massachusetts Avenue Corridor**

Scott Smith announced that the next meeting is planned for 7/10 in Fox Library.

David Walkinshaw raised some possible concerns that would likely arise from merchants. Given the absence of loading zones, there is often a need to double park for deliveries. This makes bike lanes problematic. A second concern is traffic at the Lake Street intersection.

At this point, Paolo Marinelli arrived.

### **What went well/ what didn't go well**

#### **Successes:**

- Working Groups, particularly when there was a strong resident activity level
- Data collection
- Public forums for the Assessment Study

#### **Improvement Opportunities:**

- Thus far, we have been responding to Board of Selectmen requests. The town might be better served by a more proactive approach. Fix dangerous situations before the residents complain, or worse, someone is killed. Examples cited include Appleton / Mass. Ave and Rawson / Warren.
- We need a traffic engineer
- More citizen involvement with the committee

### **Handouts:**

Agenda packet including agenda and meeting dates, traffic counts from the Jason Street / Concord Turnpike area – from Ed Starr

Minutes from May 2002, and invitation for the Massachusetts avenue corridor working group – from Scott Smith

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### **Town of Arlington Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)**

Tuesday, June 17, 2002 7:50 PM

Committee members present: Rich Bento, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Ralph Elwell, Larry Englisher, Scott Smith, Ed Starr

The minutes of the 5/14/2002 meeting were approved, with Ralph Elwell abstaining.

Handout: Minutes of 5/14/02 meeting, from Scott Smith

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM